

CULTIVAR NAMING AND REGISTRATION

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For many of us the study of CP spans both botany and horticulture: botany, for studies of plants in natural settings, and horticulture, for growing plants for esthetic or research purposes. When finding the correct scientific names for CP we have used the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* as a guide and rightly so. But once we bring CP under cultivation and begin selecting plants for horticultural merit (cultivars), we leave the botanical realm and must use the *International Code of Nomenclature of Cultivated Plants* — 1969 as a guide for applying correct cultivar names.

A cultivar is a selection from a species (or from a subspecies or variety) that has an unusual character (color, form, size, etc.). A cultivar may be originally found in nature or under cultivation and is perpetuated by man once it is recognized. The term cultivar is not recognized in the classification system of the Botanical Code, so one must turn to the Cultivated Plant Code for the rules of cultivar nomenclature.

An example of a cultivar is *Pyrus calleryana* 'Bradford', a tree with more symmetrical form than the species. This name follows the rules of the Code. Briefly, the Code specifies that cultivar names must be "fancy" (markedly different from a Latin botanical name) and they should be distinguished from botanical names by enclosing the name within single quotation marks. Capital initial letters must be used for all words of a cultivar name. A cultivar name should consist of one or two words, but not more than three words. Use of the same cultivar name for plants of different genera should be avoided. In order for a cultivar

name to be valid, it must be published along with a description and possibly an illustration. Finally, a cultivar name should be registered with a registration authority.

Frequently appearing in the Seed Bank and Want Ads sections of CPN are the names of plants that have been selected for various characters: *D. capillaris* (Gulf Coast Giant), *D. capillaris* (long leaf), *S. purpurea venosa* (pink flower) ("Horticultural variety Louis Burk"), *S. rubra* (Gulf), and many others. Since these plants are now treated as horticultural subjects, they should be properly named and registered according to the Cultivated Plant Code. I would like to suggest that CPN be appointed as the registration authority for all new CP cultivars. Thus plants such as *D. capillaris* 'Gulf Coast Giant', *D. capillaris* 'Long Leaf', *S. purpurea venosa* 'Louis Burk', and *S. rubra* 'Gulf' could be registered by CPN.

Woody plant cultivars, at present, are somewhat in a state of disarray (herbaceous cultivars are even more so, I understand). Following the Cultivated Plant Code is essentially voluntary, so many woody plant cultivars exist that have never been registered. Thus information about these cultivars is difficult to find and often different cultivar names apply to the same plant. A registration authority gathers as much information as possible for each name submitted for registration and so becomes a valuable source of information for anyone seeking to learn about a specific cultivar.

So far, the selection of CP cultivars has been limited enough that we can still gain control of the naming and reg-

istration process. At this point I would like to make a plea. *What is needed now is the complete cooperation of both commercial and private CP growers for the proper naming and registration of CP cultivars.* We have a fine opportunity to apply nomenclatural stability to the plants in our field of interest. Let's not let it escape us.

References cited:

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Sponberg, Stephen A. 1978. Registration—its value to the maintenance and use of living collections. AABGA Bulletin 12(4):142-44.

Pinguicula Slides Available to CPN Readers

Readers will recall the CPN article by *Pinguicula* expert Dr. Jurg Steiger in which 27 color slides appeared (CPN 7 : 43-50). The author has generously given us permission to reproduce and sell sets of slides of the illustrations from that article in addition to 36 additional slides that have not appeared previously for a total of 63 slides in the set. The additional 36 slides are mainly habit and/or habitat shots of the entire plant. Besides being extremely useful for identification, they are beautiful pictures.

Many readers have asked about CPN setting up a slide sales and duplicating program and we are going to use this set as a pilot study, to see how it works out and what the problems and pitfalls are. The slides have been duplicated by Kodak, a more expensive process than the quicky corner developing services can offer, but well worth it since they are nearly indistinguishable from the originals. The charge for the set involves no profit for CPN or the co-editors, but represents duplicating and printing costs (the slide key), postage and some lesser administrative costs. Each set will be accompanied by a key with ancillary information, and a contract for the purchaser to sign and return to us. The contract is mainly a promise not to resell, or duplicate for resale, any of the slides. Jurg has generously allowed use in print, but requests the common courtesy of notification and a copy of the resulting paper or article, and of course proper citation.

To obtain your set, send a *check for \$35.00* (made out to Donald Schnell) to: **DONALD SCHNELL, RT. 4, BOX 275B, STATESVILLE, NC 28677 USA.** Remember that the \$35.00 fee just covers costs to us. The fee includes *surface* parcel post postage domestic or overseas, so overseas readers should allow a longer period for delivery.

A small number of sets are already in inventory for immediate delivery, so prompt orders will receive theirs sooner. If orders exceed our expectations and additional set duplications are required, there will be a four-week delay, so we advise immediate ordering.

This project is subsidized by private funds, so naturally a large inventory or open-ended continuation of this offer is not possible. Therefore, **ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DON SCHNELL BY 15 SEPTEMBER 1979.**

If this project works out to your satisfaction and seems feasible to us after this trial, then perhaps we will be able to offer similar sets in the future as another CPN service to readers.